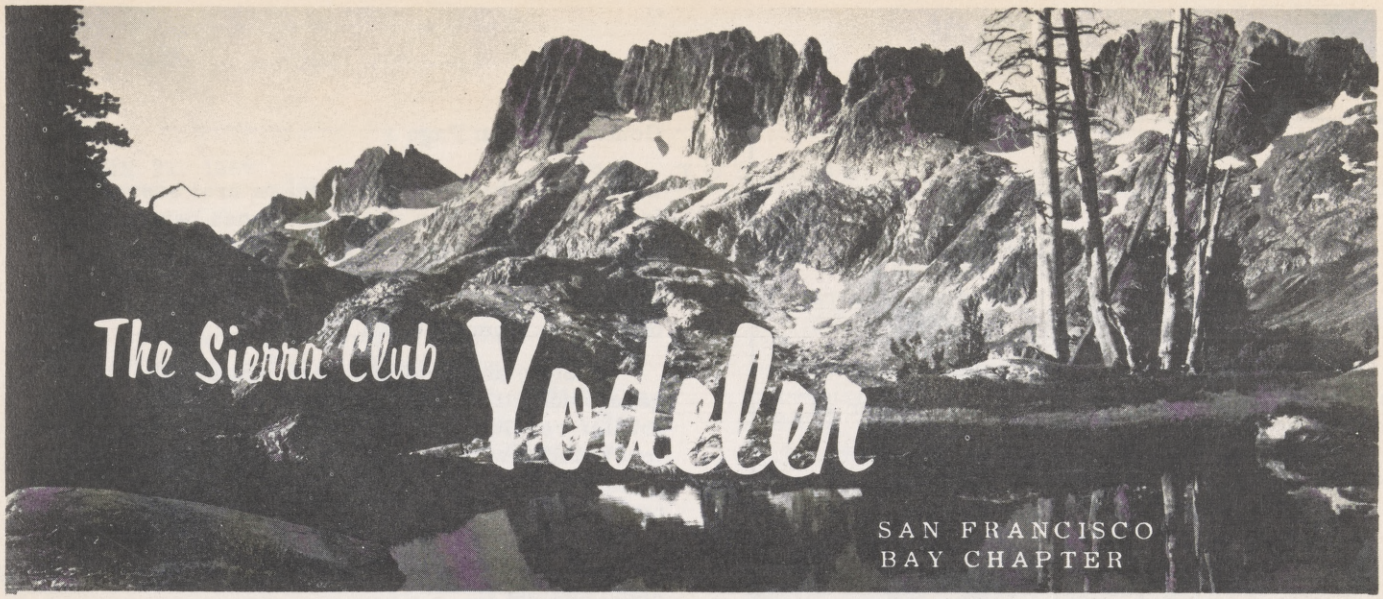

VOLUME XIX JANUARY 21, 1957 NUMBER 2

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

The meeting of the Board of Directors on January 19 and 20, at which all directors were present, was unusually lively and full of interest. Here are a few of the different items on the agenda.

A review of National Park matters brought out one of those keen discussions which show the dilemmas which sometimes confront the best of conservationists. Many of the best scenic areas are very fragile and easily destroyed by too many visitors. Paradise on Mt. Rainier is one, the plateau at Mesa Verde another, and we all know that Yosemite has those problems. Do we try to exclude overnight use entirely, or do we try to ration it (to the advantage of those who can start a few hours ahead of the crowd)? We shall have to face this question eventually and try to set up some definitions and rules. The Board will call a committee to explore with the National Park Service the definitions and criteria which should guide us.

The Shrine of the Ages at Grand Canyon was also discussed. A majority of the Board voted to strengthen their former resolution on this to definitely oppose the Shrine as non-essential to the purpose for which the Park was created.

The Mission 66 plan for Joshua Tree National Monument is one of the first two released as approved by the Park Service. No details are available here, but we hear that the mining and road interests are still bringing pressure. The Park Service is still firmly resisting and is proceeding by condemnation to acquire the 10,000 acre subdivision in Pinto Basin. (We hear that the Superintendant has just been transferred to Mt. McKinley National Park, which is the longest, widest, deepest move we are able to imagine.)

(Continued next column)

Forest Service affairs had their share of discussion. The unhappy case of the excess-height check dam at Rutherford Lake was well debated. Should the Forest Service be asked to reduce the height even though the trees in the small lake basin had been cut to make way for the water? The Board thought so, and we understand the Forest Service is willing to comply. The regulation height of such check dams is mean high water, i.e., an average of full spring height over the years.

The power of the Forest Service is set conditions under which water projects filed before creation of a Wilderness Area may operate was carefully discussed with Rockbound Valley project in mind. Waterworks are permitted in Wilderness areas and the Service does have the power to restrict conditions (building of roads or limitation to trails, for example). Power withdrawals may be different, and the Forest Service rights have not yet been tested in this direction.

There was a full discussion of the need for a Cascade Wilderness. A resolution requested the chief of the Forest Service to direct a study in collaboration with other public and private agencies on all aspects of land use between Sevens Pass and the Canadian border, and to preserve the area as it is pending the results of the study.

Scenic Recreation areas are a new idea. As presented for discussion by Dave Brower, it would create zones on the fringe of Wilderness areas where multiple use principles would permit watershed protection, wildlife habitat and all types of recreational use by man, including resorts and roads, but would exclude lumbering, mining and such uses as would

(Continued Page 2)

SIERRA CLUB YODELER

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YODELER STAFF

Barbara Tilden, Editor

Cicely M. Christy — Matilda Seliger
Howard Frohlich — Helen Wager
Nancy Pearson — Jane Allen

Production Chief and Printing . . . . . Lou Elliott
Cartoonist . . . . . Dave Meschi

NEXT DEADLINE: Monday, February 4

Volume XIX, No. 2 January 21, 1957

MOUNTAINEARS HEAR

News perhaps, but probably no surprise to the Rock Climbers--sometime over the holidays Dick Houston and Lola Wentzel tied the knot ... Lola won't say if she's used to being called Houston, but does say she likes it. And with Dick moving out of Toad Hall, that old gang is really diminishing. Maybe they're still playing with those tricky trihexaflexagons--a peculiar piece of paper with 3 sides.

With no gossip in the Yodeler box this issue, our column is bound to suffer. We'll pass on some advice from Roger Paris for skiers whose glasses fog up when they breathe--take a deep breath before you start, and hold it!

Perhaps this should be in Aunt Barbara's corner, but we'll close with a stolen quote from Newsweek, "There are incalculable social advantages in a ski weekend, especially for personable and unattached young ladies."

Write us some news and get a longer column next time.

. . . HF

Continued from Page 1

completely change the original natural scene. In effect, these would be transition zones between wilderness and the fully developed recreational areas. The Board thought this an excellent idea, filling a great need even though they were well aware of the opposition looming up on this one.

In State and Regional Park matters the Board gave much attention to Emerald Bay Bridge. The former resolution was strengthened to oppose the low-level bridge without qualifications. They were satisfied that the question is a matter of price. We do not have to have a low-level bridge to get an all-year highway. The destruction of the State Park campgrounds and the loss of scenic values call for a strong stand against it.

The Board clarified and strengthened its policy on Regional Parks. We shall write more about this item at a later date.

. . . CMC

ITEMS OF INTEREST

The Toiyabe Chapter is now officially the twelfth member of the Sierra Club family of chapters. The Chairman is Dr. Leslie Gould, of Reno.

Yellowstone National Park will move the hotels back from Old Faithful and from Yellowstone Falls and allow the natural setting to return.

Use of a helicopter was authorized in mining exploration at Shadow Creek to prevent construction of access roads.

Charles Eggert (remember "This is Dinosaur") will show his wide screen movies of the Colorado in Berkeley on Thursday, March 14th. This is a chance to see a most unusual film. Information on tickets later.

Wilderness Conference - March 15, 16. Reserve it. The Forest Service parallel to Mission 66 is "Operation Outdoors." This first five-year plan asks 85 million. The second, 62-1/2 million. The Bureau of the Budget has cleared the first and also considerable extra funds for this year. We hope Congress will cooperate.

Cedric Wright has been elected an Honorary Life Member of the Club. We are indeed glad to hear this and also to hear that Cedric's health is making fine progress.

By next week the dust stirred up by the mass of bills thrown into the Legislature will have settled down a little, and we can pick up a few important ones to review.

. . . CMC

THANKS, LIZ

Yodeler readers will be sorry to hear that we are losing Liz Shea from the editorial staff. She's served faithfully and competently for several years, and we'll certainly miss her!

HAVASU WITH WAMPLER
April 21-26

Again this year Joe Wampler is extending a special invitation to Sierra Club members to join one of his trips to Havasu Canyon, the most beautiful tributary canyon to the Grand Canyon. This is a camping and packing-in trip. 25 pounds of dunnage per person will be transported. The trip fee, a very special one to Sierrans, of $43.00 (a later refund of $5.00 if group reaches 25 or more) includes all meals from Sunday lunch to Friday lunch. There is an extra charge for cabins and horses. Reservations, accompanied by the full trip fee payable to Joe Wampler, should be addressed to:

Ethel Unselt
286 Sagamore Street
San Francisco 12
JUniper 4-6207

not later than April 1, 1957. The trip starts on Sunday morning, April 21, at Hilltop, at Havasu Canyon, and returns to Hilltop April 26th. For further information, please contact Ethel Unselt.

FOR SALE "LEDERHOSEN"

That's leather shorts imported from Germany, original Bavarian article "Marke Bergfreund", steerhide, grey, in all sizes for adults and children. Also original leather suspenders, Bavarian jackets, hats, knee stockings and "Stutzen". Reasonable prices.

Phone or write: Mrs. Annemarie Fahrenbach
463 Hanover Avenue
Oakland 6
GLencourt 2-1381

LADIES' SKIS FOR SALE

Northland, laminated, plastic base, metal edged, like new. Also bindings and poles. $35.00
PR 5-5214 (Evenings).
Can be seen at: Dawson's, 535 Mason Street
Mary Cavanaugh
722 Taylor Street

REMINDER!

Please use the yellow subscription blanks that came with your Schedule for new subscriptions only. If you have a renewal, please wait until you get the postcard reminder and send that in with your dollar.

OPPORTUNITY!

The Yodeler needs about three writer-reporters. Don't be timid about applying for the job. This is not an erudite publication ... no pedantic verbiage is required. No sage observations on LIFE and the SIERRA CLUB are needed. Your prose need not be the deathless kind, nor must it scintillate with wit. We need straightforward reporting - with perhaps a touch of persiflage.

We especially need someone to write "Tappaan Topics". Rock climbing, car camping and knapsacking are lacking adequate representation on the staff.

Being on the editorial staff requires your attendance the first and third Monday of each month at the Sierra Club office - and that's all! We have a summer vacation during July and August, and a Christmas vacation after the December issue.

We usually have a lot of fun getting the Yodeler together, and you would enjoy it, too.

If you can't commit yourself to a regular schedule, how about sending us some news! We can use articles on any events of interest to Sierrans. Gossip is always welcome! With this new process, we can use cartoons and black and white photos. Please get busy and see what you can send us. Remember, this is your newspaper!

. . . BT

SAVE THE DATE - MARCH 2

WHAT? - KNAPSACKERS' REUNION AND START-OF-SEASON PARTY

WHERE? - SIGMUND STERN GROVE, 19th Avenue and Sloat

WHEN? - March 2nd, 6:30 p.m. (Saturday)

TICKETS ($1.00 each) obtainable from:

Barbara Schill	JOrdan 7-8877
Oscar Ortiz	ATwater 2-1457
Chris Ingersoll	WEst 1-6528
Walt Oppenheimer	OVerland 1-5536

NSS MUSHROOM HUNT

The Natural Science Section Field trip on Sunday, January 27, will be a mushroom hunt led by Edward Crowley, past president of the San Francisco Mycological Society. Meet 10:15 a.m. at Junction of Highway 5 (Skyline Blvd.) and Highway 9 (Saratoga-Santa Cruz Road). From here we will proceed about 8 miles to San Lorenzo Park where there is a promising spot for a number of different kinds of mushrooms.

OF STEAKS AND SKIS

The year's first snowstorm greeted the party ski-touring to Peter Grubb a week ago. No cold dry powder either, but heavy wet snow which made breaking trail the skiers' equivalent of bush-whacking.

But eventually we arrived at the hut, which was a snug (and eventually warm) shelter. A dinner of fourteen steaks for the fourteen of us was divided twelve ways, with two of the party getting only left-overs. Poor Chinook and Donner -- they lead a dog's life, but I guess dogs have to expect that.

The mostly downhill return the next day made us feel like snowshoers instead of skiers. It had snowed wet and heavy during the night, and, except on the very steepest parts, there was no downhill sliding, just the man-killing breaking trail. Chinook was a skier as much as any of us -- following so closely that sometimes he, too, was standing on skis. On the few times he and Donner left the trail, they looked like they were swimming, with hardly more than their heads showing.

The trip's most noteworthy achievement, we think, was Earl Oliver's changing into long-johns in the teeth of the storm -- made us shiver even more just thinking of it.

Arrival at the lodge was most welcome, after being enroute over 8 hours, with no Castle Peak climbing, nor even a lunch stop. Leader Don Huber got us there despite the poor visibility, etc., and we thank him. He is listed in the Schedule for more tours but says he has other plans -- if he can make it stick. At any rate, this tour was a fine swan song.

RAQUETTEERS ARE ROLLING!

Snowshoe trips are fuller, faster, and farther this year! Leaders are imploring the Yodeler, "Please no publicity"!

The Sierra Buttes Trip for February 2-3 has been filled for some time, and a second trip scheduled March 16-17 to take care of the overflow of reservations.

We've just heard that the Washington's Birthday trip to Ludlow Hut is closed.

Don't be dismayed if you've been left behind. You can always organize your own trip. This season Hasse Bunnelle and Helen Waterman are leading the section, and, if you want to organize your own trip, they could supply you with names of fellow snowshoers from the roster.

OSTRANDER LAKE SKI TOUR
FEBRUARY 9-10

One of the most popular ski tours of any season is to Ostrander Lake in Yosemite. The exertion required is moderate compared to some other tours, especially since food and bedding are supplied at the hut, if desired, and only a very light pack need be carried. The views of the high country are inspiring. Those who have been considering deserting the crowded lift lines and packed slopes for a weekend or two will find a trip to Ostrander the most pleasant introduction to ski touring possible.

This year, for the first time, the Club has been required to place a deposit of $2.50 per person (capacity of the hut is 23 persons) in advance in order to reserve the hut. This deposit is refundable in the event of inclement weather. It is, therefore, obvious that a good turnout for this tour is essential in order to prevent a loss of money to the Club. Please show your support of the planning of the Winter Sports Committee by early signups for the Ostrander Tour. The week-end is February 9 - 10. Mark this date on your calendar and sign up now, if you wish to sleep and eat inside the hut. As many people who wish can make the trip, but only the first 23 signed up will be able to enjoy the warm hospitality of the hut interior which is the unique feature of this tour. See your Schedule for more details.

. . . Paul Grunland
Tour Leader

TLTPMHSBS ANTHEM

Ed Richardson submits the following song, which was written by Charlie Bloom of Arcata, California, on Jim Skillin's knapsack trip (Tilden Lake and Tower Peak Marching, Hiking and Sunburn Society) across Emigrant Basin last summer. This is sung to the tune of "Onward Christian Soldiers," and we believe, may in part express the sentiments of many other knapsackers and hikers:

I

Onward, Skillin's remnant,
Marching as to war;
With the pipe of Colvig
Calling on before!
We are discouraged;
Happy hikers we;
Nor shall we be halted
Til the promised lake we see!
Onward Skillin's remant
Blistered, weary, sore,
With the pipe of Colvig
Tootling on before!

II

Though the legs be weary;
Though we hobble sore;
Though decide we cannot
Which blister pains us more;
Still we plod plod upward,
Scorning lowly trail;
With our map to aid us,
Sure we cannot fail!
Onward, etc.

III

Still, though it grows later
Loftier ridges tower;
Still we flounder onward,
Hour after hour!
Snow and brush confront us;
Streams to swim across;
Yet though all seems hopeless,
Jim's not at a loss!
Onward, etc.

HIMALAYAN ADVENTURE

See and hear the only Bay Area recounting of the 1955 Swiss ascent of Lhotse and Mt. Everest, with narration by noted guide, Jurg Marmet. Jurg was one of the two men who made the second ascent of Everest.

The pictures will be ultimate in slow motion--slides only, no movies.

Where and when: 8 p.m., Tuesday, February 5th at Berkeley High's Little Theater. Tickets at 90¢ at the Ski Hut, 1615 University Avenue, the Recreation Office, 1835 Allston Way, or at the box office if there are any left. For further information: Fred Johnson, SUtter 1-7700, Extension 3641.

BOAT SHOW - MARCH 19

The River Touring Section will display over 30 different kinds of paddle craft at the Lake Merritt Canoe House on Tuesday Evening, March 19th. All brands and models of foldboats - from the large two-seater touring boats to the trim slalom craft--will be on exhibit. You'll also see several types of home-made kyaks - both wood and canvas and fiberglass. And, of course, there'll be canoes, too.

Come on down and see what kind of boat you'd like to have.

. . . BT

THANKS TO YOU, AND YOU, AND YOU!

The response to our call in the last issue for help in the subscription department has been wonderful. Enough responded to make it possible to give everyone a task he enjoys.

There are always opportunities for help in this phase of Yodeler operations, and if you can spare some time, please keep in touch with us.

SUFFERING FROM SUNDAY SLUMP?

If you can't ski or snowshoe every week-end, don't forget Sunday hikes! Our Marin and East Bay hills are at their green best this time of year. The creeks are running full, and the air is like champagne! It's real hiking weather!

FOR RENT: (San Anselmo, Marin County)

Furnished cottage, 4 rooms, sun porch, lovely garden, sheltered patio, picnic house. Delightful indoor-outdoor living. Basic garden care provided. Easy commuting, available February 1st. Phone GLenwood 4-5088, evenings, Sundays and Tuesdays.

THE SIERRA CLUB
1050 Mills Tower 220 Bush Street
San Francisco 4, California

The Yodeler